

## Big Fire in New York.

Fifty-Four Engines and Fire-Fighting Apparatus Were at Work at One Time.

New York, Jan 31.—The seven story factory of the William Wicke company, manufacturers of cigar boxes, labels and ribbons, at 401 to 419 Thirty first street, was shaken this afternoon by an explosion in the "shaving tower" which wrecked the tower and demolished the roof of the engine house. The explosion is attributed to gas leaking into the "tower."

Nearly 800 persons, including 350 women, were at work in the factory. A panic ensued but only two persons seriously injured.

Joseph Speidler, fireman, was badly out and bruised and may die.

Emil Barschel, a stream fitter, was badly out about the head and shoulders. Both were sent to Bellevue hospital.

A score or more were slightly hurt. Otto Reidle, the chief engineer who was at lunch, was arrested.

Fritz Schofield, the assistant engineer, who was in the engine house was also arrested.

The loss caused by the explosion amounted to several thousand dollars.

Fire that did damage to the extent of \$1,500,000 started anew in the William Wicke company's building tonight. In a half hour the entire building extending half the length of the block in Thirty first street to the river, was a mass of flames and the firemen confined their work to saving the adjacent structures.

Superintendent Dooner of the building department, and Contractor Cody, who has an annual contract for removing wreckage of burned buildings, were at work with 30 men attempting to pull down the wrecked shaving tower.

The ruins of the tower fell into the ruins of the boiler room and into adjacent rooms in which were stored chemicals for the seasoning of woods, thus causing a second explosion. Smoldering embers from the late fire added to this and in a moment there was a large blaze.

The men of Engine company 16, who had been left on duty and had put out a "watch line," were at work at the time.

Four alarms were turned in within 15 minutes.

Chief Croker soon arrived and sent a fifth alarm. A minute later he sent in the alarm known as "two pipes," the first this alarm has been used since the Nassau Chambers building fire in 1898.

The final call brought 54 engines, hook and ladder companies, tenders and water towers and searchlights.

The Wicke building was seen to be doomed and the men turned their attention to the tenement house at 464 east Thirty-first, opposite the burning factory. This is a five story tenement occupied by 22 families of Italians and Germans. The police got them out safely.

The fire spread with the greatest rapidity throughout the entire plant of the Wicke company. The police then began saving people in other tenement houses. Engine company 21 was stationed almost underneath the walls of the burning factory. The firemen had been forced back by the heat. The three white horses stogized hard to escape from the burning heat and some firemen threw overcoats over their heads and ran in and cut the traces. The horses plunged madly away, but became entangled about a lamp post. Three firemen secured a lot of overcoats from the crowd, cut the lines and started them away.

## WRECK ON C & D RY.

Darlington Jan 31.—Train No 453, running extra from Darlington to Hartsville under orders, was wrecked at Swift Creek trestle this morning. The train left the station here at 9 30 running backward, turning the curve near the cotton mill. The engineer blew his whistle for brakes and seeing no signal looked again when he saw a flagman running towards the train. He immediately put on the emergency brakes and reversed the lever but too late to prevent the disaster. The trestle was under repairs and there were a hand car and cross ties on it. This the engine struck. The trestle was badly wrecked, the rails and foundation being left. The baggage car was upside down in the water and on fire, and the coach was one end in the water, the other leaning on the end of the trestle, the engine being on the edge of a high embankment with the tender 200 yards down the track, having broken loose, being in front.

Engineer McLeod was badly bruised and had his head and face burned. Conductor Welsh was in the coach which was overturned. He was badly bruised. Bullock, the colored fireman, and Tomlin, the colored brakeman, who were on the engine, jumped, though begged by Engineer McLeod not to do so. Bullock will probably die, while Tomlin may recover.

Engineer McLeod has been on the main line five years, and this is his first accident. Work was immediately begun by the engineer and fireman to prevent further damage from fire. There will be no train to Cheraw until Saturday.

The Boston "Zoo" in Baltimore is burned and seventy-five animals perish.

## Neely the Scapegoat.

The Big Stealing Was Done in Washington.

Washington, Jan. 30.—Senator Hanna is said to have engaged rooms at Havana during the period when Rathbone is to be tried for embezzling the funds of the Cuban postoffice, and to be actively engaged in his defense. This, of course, will only be returning favors in kind as Rathbone "carried the sack" when Hanna was elected to the Senate and is undoubtedly qualified to make some ugly disclosures if he sees fit to do so. At the same time, it is declared that efforts have been made to get Neely to plead guilty by promise to get him off with imprisonment for one year if he will do so, the failure of justice in this respect to be charged up to the Cuban courts.

Neely himself has made a published statement in his own defense in which he claims to be as innocent as any lamb. Without giving much credence to this, officers here feel confident that there was at least as much roguery or malfeasance here in Washington as there was in Cuba in connection with the postoffice trouble. Rathbone, it is said, is to be gotten off because he knows of these things and could establish them, while Neely, who was merely a subordinate and not having access to the incriminating documents in question will not be spared unless he is willing to act as a scapegoat and take the entire blame, thus exonerating others.

The following are some excerpts from Neely's statement: "Had I wanted to steal, why did I not do it when there was a chance for me to get something worth while? Once I could have pocketed a million dollars. The man who says that the stamps were not destroyed, or who says that I said the packages contained only brown paper, tells a damnable lie. Save for one or two packages, they were in the original. If they contained only brown paper the fraud was committed in Washington. This explains the three principal charges against me: The stamps were actually destroyed. The payments on account of Rathbone's house and per diem were specifically ordered from Washington. The shortage with which I am charged does not exist in fact. I wish I had chance at a trial before an American jury, with the privilege of examining and the power to subpoena witnesses, books and papers."

The Postoffice officials deny all of Neely's statements. Of course, they would naturally do so in any case. It is noticed, however, that they keep the Lawshe report very secret. This, in fact, it is said, will never be made public, not even after trials are over.

## A Boston Fanatic

Boston, Jan 30.—Mrs. Mary Green, who seemed to be familiar with the methods of Mrs. Carrie Nation of Kansas, wrecked a Cambridge street barroom last evening and today was sentenced to serve a term at the house of correction.

Mrs. Green not only laid the bartender low with a plate, but also reduced the barware to molecules, shattered several plate glass mirrors and drove the frightened patrons of the establishment into the wine cellar.

## Neeley in Havana.

Havana, January 30.—Charles F. W. Neeley, formerly chief of the bureau of finance of the Cuban post office department, who was arrested in Rochester, N. Y., last May, charged with embezzling \$36,000 of the department funds, has arrived here on the steamship Mexico from New York, January 27. Capt. Lucien Young, captain of the port, took charge of the prisoner and delivered him to the keeper of the Carcel. Lawyer Viondi Neeley's counsel, had a long talk with the prisoner. Neeley is in good spirits, received many visitors and talked confidently of his acquittal.

## Do Not Drink While Eating.

Liquids at meals, if taken too often or too carelessly, are liable to dilute the gastric juices. Take no liquid of any kind when food is in the mouth. Take as little as possible till the close of the meal. The digestive agents themselves being fluids it is reasonable to suppose that an excess of liquids taken with the food will have a tendency to dilute and thereby weaken the digestive juices.—February Ladies' Home Journal.

## The Only American Girl to Marry a King.

But one American girl has ever married a King, and she, a New England woman, now a widow, is living in a royal palace in the country of her adoption, almost lost sight of by her American sisters and friends. The romance of this fascinating, gifted American girl, who won the hand and heart of a King—one of the prettiest of love stories—will be one of the features of the March Ladies' Home Journal.

## Charges Made Against Hawaiian Delegate.

Alleged That Wilcox Has Held Communication With Filipinos.

Washington, Feb 1.—Charges have been submitted to the house committee on elections No 1. against Robert W. Wilcox, the Hawaiian representative in the house of representatives, by George D. Garr, of Hawaii, who submitted documents purporting to be copies of letters written by Wilcox to Filipino officials. The alleged letters are of a highly sensational character. One bears the alleged signature of Wilcox. It is dated Honolulu, January 31, 1899, and addressed to Dr. Jos. Losada, Capt. Marti Burgos, and Senor J. Luna, and introduced to them a "friend of mine who is a very able man to help you in the letter says: "Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ will be a useful ally to fight for the cause of the Philippines."

"One thing is sure that you could resist against any army of invasion—you have a population of 12,000, 000 and already a disciplined army of 30,000 well equipped with modern arms."

"I have already made up my mind to join with you in your country against America in case they insist to ignore the right, the justice of your cause. I know well my profession as an artillery officer. I have no fear of the whole world when I fight for a legitimate cause like yours. Between myself, it would be very little chance left to the invading army of the United States to conquer your country. Tell Gen. Aguinaldo I have already given my service for your country and I am ready to obey orders to go to your country and fight for the independence of your people and country at any moment."

Another letter dated Honolulu, March 8, 1899, says: "I am thinking to go to the Philippine islands and give my assistance to Aguinaldo against the invaders—the hypocritical invaders—the carpet-bag politician—Otis."

The petition says there was no election machinery when Wilcox was elected delegate, Nov. 6, 1900, and that many voters, therefore, made no attempt to vote. It is alleged "that Wilcox in his speeches prior to the election, made use of the strongest kind of anti American utterances for the purpose of carrying the election, telling the native Hawaiians that the Americans had stolen their country and that a vote for him was a vote for the restoration of the queen and that if he were elected the queen would be restored; that said Wilcox was and is guilty of treason against the United States in that he did, as petitioner is informed and believes, since the annexation of said Hawaiian islands, write and send through the United States mails certain letters highly treasonable in their nature wherein he did counsel and incite others to engage in open rebellion against the United States and did so offer his own services."

The petition in conclusion charges his election was invalid; that "he is not a fit and proper person" to represent Hawaii, alleges bigamy and alleges "written and uttered treasonable language;" wherefore it is petitioned he should be expelled from congress.

Mr. Wilcox says he has no fear of the charges made. He admits that he wrote a letter to Dr. Losada, Capt. Burgos and Senor Luna, introducing Caesar Morino, an Italian of this city, whom he knew while the latter was in Hawaii and to whom the unaddressed letter filed by Gear was addressed, but he said he was unable to say whether the letters filed were exact copies of those he sent.

## Story of a Slave.

To be bound hand and foot for years by the chains of disease is the worst form of slavery. George D. Williams, of Manchester, Mich., tells how such a slave was made free. He says: "My wife has been so helpless for five years that she could not turn over in bed alone. After using two bottles of Electric Bitters, she is wonderfully improved and able to do her own work." This supreme remedy for female diseases quickly cures nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, headache, backache, fainting and dizzy spells. This miracle working medicine is a godsend to weak, sickly, run down people. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50c. Sold by J. P. W. — Elorme, Druggist.

## Two Oldest People Found.

New York, Jan 31.—After searching six months for the oldest persons in the world, the committee on vital statistics of the Hundred Year club, of this city, has prepared a report which shows that the oldest man is Isaiah Rodofsky, of Moscow, Russia, who is in his 136th year, and the oldest woman, Mrs. Nancy Hollifield, of Battle Creek, Mich., who is 117.

Rodofsky is reported by Dr. Joseph Jernoshky, of Moscow, who says the old man comes of a long lived family. His father died at 120 years. Rodofsky's sight is good, but his hearing is poor. He was never ill; uses liquor, but has never used tobacco.

Dr. Wood, of the Battle Creek, Mich. sanitarium, reports that Mrs. Hollifield has lived a temperate, simple life, doing housework for years.

## SOUTHERN CLAIMS PASSED BY HOUSE.

Stores and Supplies Taken by the Union Army.

Washington, Feb 1.—The house today passed an omnibus bill carrying 191 claims for stores and supplies taken by the Union army during the war between the states. The claims were passed on by the court of claims under the Bowman act and aggregated \$344,480. Practically all the beneficiaries reside in the south. Considerable opposition to the bill was displayed early in the day under the leadership of Mr. Cannon, the chairman of the appropriation committee, but it flattened out later and the bill was finally passed without division.

The bill to amend the Chinese exclusion act with a view to preventing the fraudulent entry of Chinese into the United States was passed. It was agreed that the bill establishing a national station bureau should be made a continuing order after the disposal of the bill to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service. The bill to authorize the construction of a first order light at Hillsboro, Florida, at a cost of \$90,000 was passed.

The bill for the relief of St. John's Lodge of A. F. and A. M. of New Berne, N. C., appropriating \$60,000 for the destruction of the Masonic lodge by Union troops during the rebellion, was passed. Mr. Thomas of North Carolina defended it in debate.

The house then went into committee of the whole and took up the omnibus bill.

The individual items in the bill were each discussed by the opponents of the bill and its consideration was prolonged for several hours, but it was reported finally to the house and passed without division. Bills were passed to authorize the construction of two dams across the Savannah river above Augusta, Ga, and to authorize the Mississippi Choctaws to bring suit in the court of claims against the Choctaw nation to determine their rights under the treaty of 1830.

And yet it is doubtful if any of these Kansas saloons sell a brand that would make even an able bodied man out up like Mrs. Carrie Nation—Atlanta Journal.

## WOMAN

IS LIKE A DELICATE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

In good condition she is sweet and lovable, and sings life's song on a joyful harmonious string. Out of order or unstrung, there is discordance and unhappiness. Just as there is one key note to all music so there is one key note to health. A woman might as well try to fly without wings as to feel well and look well while the organs that make her a woman are weak or diseased. She must be healthy inside or she can't be healthy outside. There are thousands of women suffering silently all over the country. Mistaken modesty urges their silence. While there is nothing more admirable than a modest woman, health is of the first importance. Every other consideration should give way before it. Bradfield's Female Regulator is a medicine for women's ills. It is the safest and quickest way to cure leucorrhea, falling of the womb, nervousness, headache, backache and general weakness. You will be astonished at the result, especially if you have been experimenting with other so-called remedies. We are not asking you to try an uncertainty. Bradfield's Regulator has made happy thousands of women. What it has done for others it can do for you. Sold in drug stores for \$1 a bottle.

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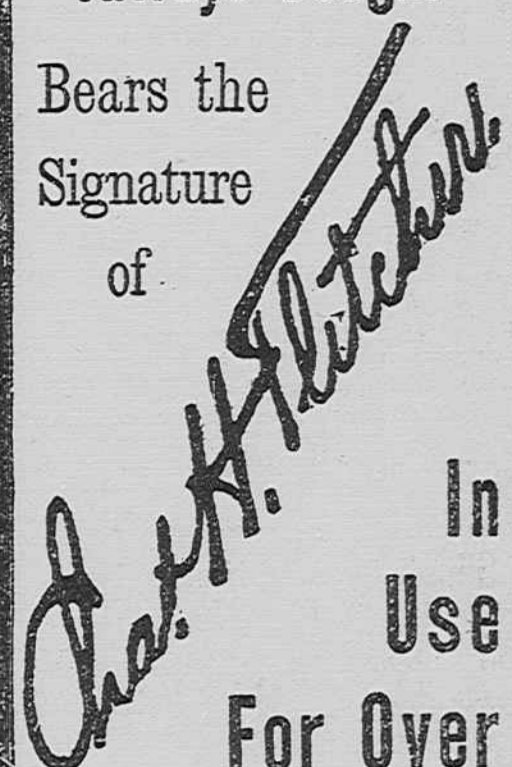
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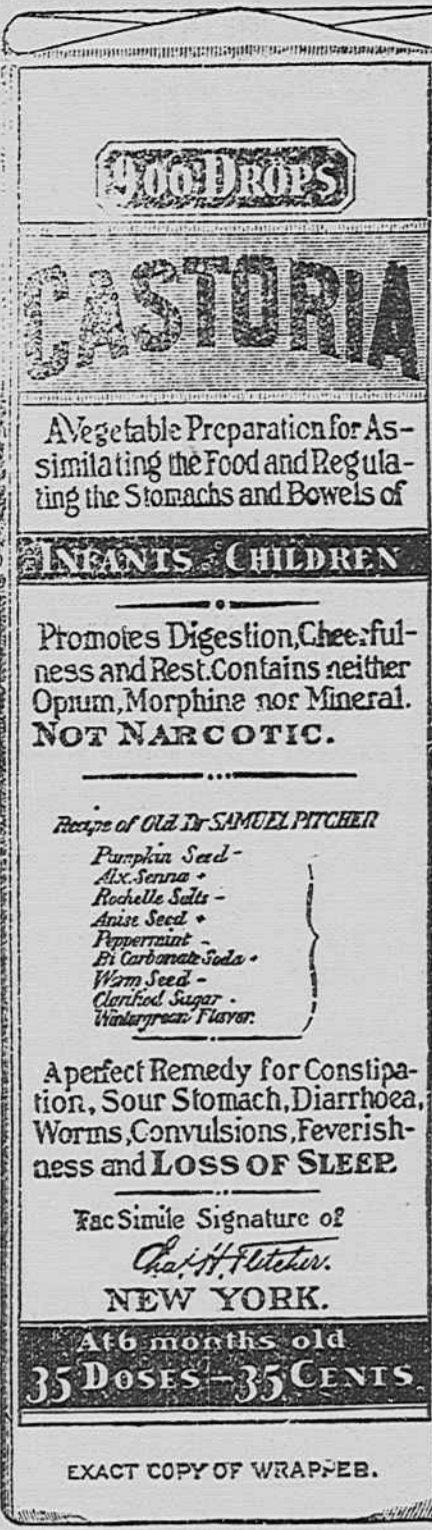
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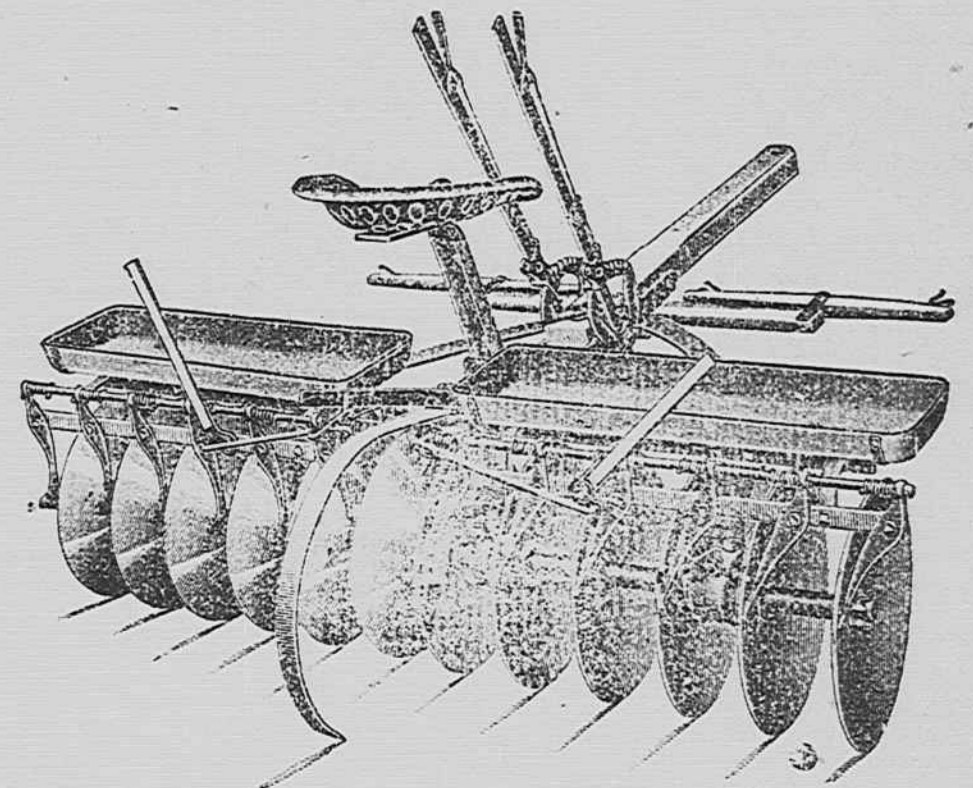
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Nov 21-4m

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